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"30. The total effort required to provide security for air facilities."(S)

STAG Comment: (TS) It was realized in the early stages of this study that data was not available to make a complete analysis of this question. It was recommended in the STAG Interim Report dated 17 November 1965 that MACV be queried by Staff Service message to obtain the answer to this question, among others. Some information is available, however, an accurate assessment can not be made. There are currently 16 Free World Military Armed Force Battalions (FWMAF) engaged in defense of major bases and an additional 9 are scheduled to be employed in this task through Phase II buildup. In the I Corps area there are 5 of a total of 12 USMC Battalions engaged in major base security. The air bases at Da Nang, Da Nang East and Chu Lai are included within these bases. It cannot be stated positively how many battalions are utilized in defending the air bases versus how many are engaged in defending ground bases. In the II Corps Area there are 7 of a total of 20 FWMAF Battalions engaged in base security. The entire ROK Division is engaged in defense of facilities at Cam Ranh and Phan Rang. There are airfields at both Cam Ranh and Phan Rang. It is impossible to tell how many Koreans are engaged in airfield defense. It can not be determined whether any elements of the 1st Cavalry Division or the 101st Airborne Bde are engaged in defense of USAF airfields in the Pleiku area. In the III Corps area there are 4 of a total of 12 FWMAF Battalions engaged in defense of facilities. One brigade of the 1st Infantry Division is engaged in security at Bien Hoa Air Base. Elements of the 1st Division are stationed there also. One battalion is engaged in defense of Vung Tau Air Base and logistics facilities. There are no FWMAF Battalions stationed in IV Corps area. There are 44 FWMAF Battalions in SVN; 16 or 36 percent are engaged in defense of major bases. Ten, or 23 percent, are engaged in security for expansion of governmental control and 18, or 41 percent, are engaged in offensive operations.

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